

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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47

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12

ACDA-19 GAC-01 SAJ-01 MBFR-03 RSR-01 /129 W

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R 131025 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8447

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AUSMISSION BERLIN 371

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 3046

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, AU

SUBJECT: WINZER VISIT TO AUSTRIA

REF: VIENNA 1646; BERLIN 0572

1. GDR FOREIGN MINISTER OTTO WINZER ARRIVED APRIL 10 FOR ANNOUNCED PURPOSE OF MAKING ADDRESS BEFORE AUSTRIAN FOREIGN POLICY ASSOCIATION ON " SECURITY IN EUROPE AND THE FOREIGN POLICY OF THE GDR". ON APRIL 12, HE CALLED UPON PRESIDENT JONAS AND CHANCELLOR KREISKY, AND HAD ONE AND ONE- HALF HOUR SESSION WITH FONMIN KIRCHSCHLAEGER, WITH WHOM HE DISCUSSED CSCE AND OTHER EUROPEAN MATTERS. HIS ADDRESS ON APRIL 11 WAS A REITERATION OF WELL- KNOWN GDR VIEWS.

2. HEAD OF POLITICAL DIVISION AT FONOFF RUDOLF STEINER TOLD POLCOUN THAT GOA WAS WELL AWARE OF FACT THAT WINZER HAD EXPLOITED PRIVATE INVITATION IN ORDER TO MAKE WHAT AMOUNTED TO AN UNINVITED OFFICIAL VISIT. WHILE VISIT AT THIS LEVEL WAS REGARDED BY AUSTRIAN AS PREMATURE, THEY RECOGNIZED IMPORTANCE TO GDR OF WINZER APPEAR- ANCE FOR FIRST TIME IN WESTERN EUROPEAN CAPTIAL AND WERE WILLING TO GO ALONG. MOREOVER, AUSTRIANS HAVE RECENTLY RECEIVED CLEAR SIGNAL (PARTICULARLY AT MPT IN HELSINKI) THAT GDR HAS BEEN SPECIALLY DESIGNATED BY WARSAW PACT TO DEAL WITH AUSTRIA.

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3. STEINER SAID HE DID DETECT CERTAIN UNHAPPINESS ON PART OF GDR OVER GOA DELAY IN APPOINTING AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR TO BERLIN. COINCIDENTLY, AGREEMENT, WHICH WAS REQUESTED NOT LONG AGO FOR DR. FRIEDRICH BAUER (PRESENT HEAD OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES DEPARTMENT AT FONOFF), WAS APPROVED BY GDR COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ON APRIL 11. AUSTRIANS HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO CONVINCE EAST GERMANS THAT DELAY WAS MORE RESULT OF BUREAUCRATIC SLIPPAGE THAN OF CALCULATED POLITICAL STRATEGY.

4. STEINER HAD IMPRESSION THAT WINZER MASKS A HARD CHARACTER BEHIND AN AFFABLE MANNER. HUMES

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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30 JUN 2005

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